

Claim Amendments

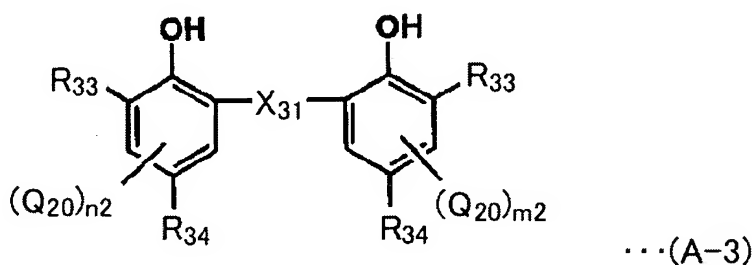
1. (Original) A photothermographic imaging material,
comprising:

a support;

an image forming layer containing an organic silver
salt, a photosensitive silver halide, a binder and a silver
ion reducing agent, the image forming layer being provided
on the support; and

a cyan coloring leuco dye,

wherein the photosensitive silver halide contains
silver halide grains having a mean particle size of 10 to
50 nm, and the silver ion reducing agent is a compound
represented by the following Formula (A-3),

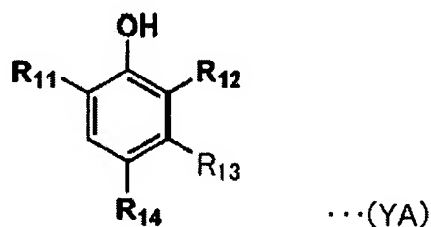


wherein the X₃₁ represents a chalcogen atom or a CHR,
the R representing a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an
alkyl group or an alkenyl group; each R₃₃ represents an

alkyl group, at least one R_{33} being a secondary or tertiary alkyl group; the each R_{34} represents a hydrogen atom or a group capable of being substituted on a benzene ring; each Q_{20} represents a group capable of being substituted on a benzene ring; and each of the m_2 and the n_2 represents an integer of 0 to 2.

2. (Original) The material of claim 1, wherein the compound represented by the Formula (A-3) comprises an alkyl group having a hydroxyl group or a precursor of the hydroxyl group.

3. (Original) The material of claim 1, further comprising a compound represented by the following Formula (YA) on a side of a face having the image forming layer,



wherein the R_{11} represents a substituted or non-substituted alkyl group; the R_{12} represents a hydrogen atom, a substituted or non-substituted alkyl group or a

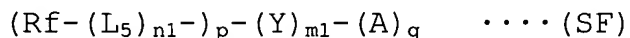
substituted or non-substituted acylamino group, the R_{11} and the R_{12} being substantially free from 2-hydroxyphenylmethyl group; the R_{13} represents a hydrogen atom or a substituted or non-substituted alkyl group; and the R_{14} represents a substituent capable of being substituted on a benzene ring.

4. (Original) The material of claim 1, wherein an average gradation is from 2.0 to 4.0 at an optical density of 0.25 to 2.5 in diffused light on a characteristic curve shown on rectangular coordinates where unit lengths of diffuse density (Y axis) and common logarithm exposure amount (X axis) are equal on an image obtained by thermally developing at a development temperature of 123°C for a development time of 13.5 sec.

5. (Original) The material of claim 1, comprising at least one silver saving agent selected from a vinyl compound, a hydrazine derivative, a silane compound and a quaternary onium salt in a side of a face having the image forming layer.

6. (Original) The material of claim 1, wherein a glass transition temperature (T_g) of the binder is from 70°C to 150°C.

7. (Original) The material of claim 1, comprising a compound represented by the following Formula (SF),



wherein the Rf represents a substituent containing a fluorine atom; the L₅ represents a bivalent linkage group substantially free from a fluorine atom; the Y represents a bivalent to quadrivalent linkage group substantially free from a fluorine atom; the A represents an anion group or a base of the anion group; each of the m₁ and n₁ represents an integer of 0 or 1; each of the p and the q represents an integer of 1 to 3; and when the q is 1, the n₁ and m₁ are not simultaneously 0.

8. (Original) The material of claim 1, wherein the photosensitive silver halide further contains silver halide grains having a mean particle size of 55 to 100 nm.

9. (Original) The material of claim 1, wherein the photosensitive silver halide further contains silver halide grains which are chemically sensitized with a chalcogen compound.

10. (Original) The material of claim 1, wherein an amount of silver contained in the image forming layer is from 0.3 to 1.5 g/m².

11. (Original) A method for forming an image, comprising:

thermally developing the material of claim 1 by using a thermal development apparatus having a thermal development portion, an imaging material supplying portion and an image exposure section,

wherein a transport velocity of the material at the thermal development portion is from 10 to 200 mm/sec, a transport velocity of the material between the imaging material supplying portion and the image exposure portion is from 10 to 200 mm/sec, and a transport velocity of the material at the image exposure portion is from 10 to 200 mm/sec.

12 - 25 (Canceled)